



# Elmore County

September 2020

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

## Workforce Trends

### Population

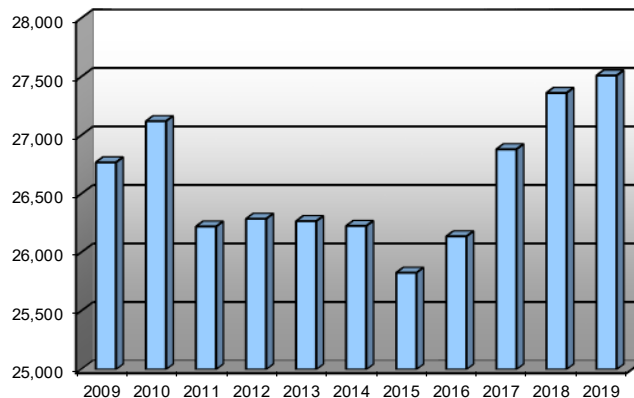
Elmore County is Idaho's sixth largest in land size. The county's population has been volatile the last decade reaching 27,511, the highest since 2010 and the highest since 2001.—only slightly higher since 2008 at

The community built up prior to the Great Recession as did housing on the Mountain Home Air Force Base. The composition of airbase personnel along with residential requirements have changed over the years allowing active military to live in Boise.

Commuters heading to Boise are able to enjoy a more rural lifestyle while simultaneously maintaining a similar commute time to people living in Canyon County because traffic congestion is less.

Mountain Home is the county seat with a 2019 population of 14,526 or 0.4 percent growth rate from 2018.—slightly less than the county. Glenns Ferry, the other incorporated city in the county, had a population of 1,303.

Population



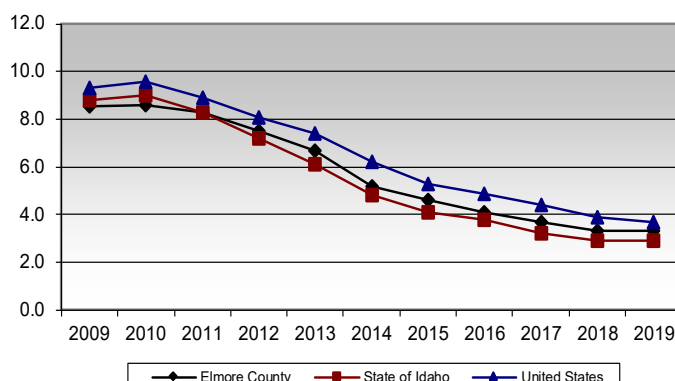
### Labor Force & Employment

Elmore County's civilian labor force has also fluctuated over the past decade but shows no increase between 2008 and 2018. Employment continued to increase since 2016 as the 2019 annual average grew to a record 11,169. The Great Recession caused Elmore County's unemployment rate to double from its 2007 low point of 3.9 percent to 8.6 percent in 2010. Since then, the unemployment rate has steadily decreased to a low of 3.3 percent in 2019, unchanged from 2018. Air base personnel are not part of the civilian labor force but their spouses could be if working or searching for a job.

Elmore County's total covered jobs continued to increase for the fourth consecutive year reaching a record 7,152 in 2019. This is an increase of 0.9 percent from 2018 yet relatively flat growth over the decade.

Government jobs declined over the decade primarily

Unemployment Rates



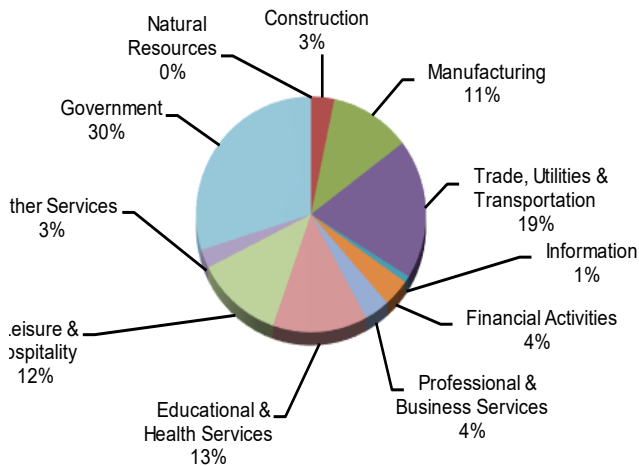
due to St. Luke's acquiring Elmore Medical Center, formerly county owned. Local government accounted for most of the growth in government in 2019.

Information took the biggest percentage hit over the year, down 10 percent, but only 6 workers. A loss of employees in general merchandise stores resulted in the decrease in retail trade in 2019. The number of jobs in ambulatory care and day care resulted in an increase employment in the educational and health services sector in 2019.

Labor Force	Aug 19	Aug 20
Civilian Labor Force	11,638	11,936
Total Employment	11,243	11,464
Unemployed	395	472
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.4	4.0
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	4.2
U.S. % Unemployed	3.7	8.4

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	11,408	11,395	11,004	10,678	10,783	11,005	10,742	10,973	11,185	11,402	11,547
Unemployment	973	984	912	804	724	574	496	453	411	380	378
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.5	8.6	8.3	7.5	6.7	5.2	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.3	3.3
Employment	10,435	10,411	10,092	9,874	10,059	10,431	10,246	10,520	10,774	11,022	11,169

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



## Per Capita Income & Employment

Elmore County ranks 31st in per capita income among the 44 counties. The county's per capita income of \$36,855 in 2018 was up 3.5 percent from 2017.

Government continues to be the main job sector, providing 27 percent of total covered employment due to the presence of the air force base.

Average wages increased in most industries up an average 1.6 percent from 2018 and up 24 percent from 2009. The information sector continues to have the highest average wage while leisure and hospitality with its high percentage of part-time workers is the low range.

## Major Employers

Best Western Foot Hills Motor Inn  
Boulder Creek Enterprises Inc  
City of Mountain Home  
Elmore County  
Elmore Medical Center  
Glenns Ferry School District #192  
Marathon Cheese  
Mountain Home Air Force Base  
Mountain Home School District #193  
NAF Financial Management Branch  
Pioneer Federal Credit Union  
PKL Service Inc  
Walmart

Southwest Idaho Wages*	Occupational Entry Wage	Median Wage
Farmworkers & Laborers - Crop	\$10.64	\$12.57
Farmworkers, Farm, & Ranch Animals	\$10.44	\$17.88
Construction Laborer	\$12.65	\$16.79
Cook, Restaurant	\$9.43	\$12.20
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators (Forklift)	\$13.67	\$17.85
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$18.74	\$23.02
Registered Nurse	\$26.79	\$34.33
Shipping, Receiving, Traffic Clerks	\$11.56	\$16.74
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	\$15.68	\$22.63
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	\$12.96	\$18.31

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at <https://lmi.idaho.gov/oes>

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2009, 2018 & 2019	2009		2018		2019	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	6,721	\$28,184	7,088	\$34,376	7,152	\$34,920
<b>Agriculture</b>	434	\$23,906	631	\$36,783	629	\$37,039
<b>Mining</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	260	\$29,218	216	\$38,426	214	\$41,230
<b>Manufacturing</b>	463	\$27,580	715	\$35,699	745	\$36,753
<b>Trade, Utilities and Transportation</b>	1,150	\$25,955	1,277	\$36,839	1,255	\$36,754
<b>Information</b>	72	\$37,052	65	\$51,944	59	\$54,232
<b>Financial Activities</b>	220	\$33,208	252	\$41,309	243	\$44,501
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	446	\$36,947	240	\$34,421	233	\$34,233
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	536	\$27,207	830	\$32,698	870	\$32,974
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	738	\$11,533	789	\$13,672	799	\$14,367
<b>Other Services</b>	134	\$21,036	180	\$34,345	167	\$35,699
<b>Government</b>	2,270	\$33,712	1,893	\$38,780	1,938	\$39,213

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Elmore County</b>	\$27,723	\$28,100	\$29,771	\$30,551	\$32,471	\$33,892	\$35,823	\$36,063	\$35,609	\$36,855
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
<b>United States</b>	\$39,284	\$40,546	\$42,735	\$44,599	\$44,851	\$47,058	\$48,978	\$49,870	\$51,885	\$54,446

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis